



IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR MAILE WILSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

MINUTES

Rural Transportation Executive Council (RTEC)

May 20, 2016, 2:00 p.m.

Valley View Medical Center

1303 North Main Street, Cedar City, UT

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Maile Wilson
Mayor Donald Landes
Mayor Geoffrey Chesnut
Commissioner Alma Adams
Mr. Bret Howser

REPRESENTING:

Cedar City
Parowan City
Enoch City
Iron County
Brian Head Town

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Mayor Connie Robinson
Mayor Galen Allred

REPRESENTING:

Paragonah Town
Kanarraville Town

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Reed Erickson
Mr. Shayne Scott
Mr. Rob Dotson
Jim McConnell
Ms. Robin Erickson
Mr. Dave Demas
Mr. Curt Hutchings

REPRESENTING:

Iron County
Parowan City
Enoch City
Utah Department of Transportation
UCAIR
Five County Assoc. of Governments
Five County Assoc. of Governments

I. Quorum Declaration

The meeting was chaired by Mayor Maile Wilson. Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order and declared that there was a quorum present to conduct business.

II. Approve Minutes for March 3, 2016

Mayor Wilson presented minutes of the March 3, 2016 meeting for discussion and consideration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Alma Adams, seconded by Mayor Geoffrey Chesnut, to approve minutes of the March 3, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

III. Chair/Vice-Chair Changes at the RTAC – Update



IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR MAILE WILSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

Mr. Dave Demas announced that Kit Wareham will assume the responsibilities of Chair for the RTAC. Changes were previously approved which included Shayne Scott serving as Chair and Kit Wareham serving as Vice-Chair. However, with recent changes it will become necessary to elect a new Vice-Chair at the next RTAC meeting.

IV. Regional Transportation Plan Revision – Update

Mr. Dave Demas reported that staff is in the process of making revisions to the Regional Transportation Plan. Email copies of the draft have been provided to RTAC members for review and comment. Copies of the plan revisions were handed out to RTEC members for review as well. The changes are not major but include things that have occurred over the past two years. It was noted that Highway 143 will be included in the plan. Chapters I and II will be reviewed at the next RTAC meeting. Reed Erickson was asked to review the county population information and to provide any necessary changes. It was noted that numbers were taken from the American Fact Finder and U.S. Census information.

V. RPO Funding Approval for Next Fiscal Year

Mr. Curt Hutchings, Five County AOG, reported that involvement with the Iron County Regional Planning Organization has been ongoing for approximately seven years. He noted that Mr. Dave Demas provides a very good resource for Iron County in his work with the RPO. The RPO was organized with a \$50,000 funding amount attached. It was subsequently determined that \$40,000 in funding would be sufficient to operate this program. That funding amount has been held constant with expenditures typically running around \$35,000 on a reimbursement basis. However, oftentimes there is a need for special projects such as a study, leveraging of UDOT funds, etc. For example, a special study was previously commissioned to study the Alton coal hauling. The Iron County Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) has provided a recommendation to RTEC to continue funding for the RPO at the \$40,000 amount. Staff is asking for RTEC approval to continue funding for the RPO.

A motion was made by Mayor Donald Landes, seconded by Mayor Geoffrey Chesnut, to approve the Iron County Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (ICRTAC) recommendation to continue funding in the amount of \$40,000 to the Iron County Rural Planning Organization (ICRPO). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Chairs signature is required on a certification document as well as on an agreement with the Iron County Commission for reimbursement of expenses. Commissioner Alma Adams indicated that funding is taken out of the Corridor Preservation fund. He also noted that the local option tax will be on the commission



IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR MAILE WILSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

agenda for discussion. Mr. McConnell mentioned that the SR-56/I-15 interchange project is on hold currently until traffic in this area warrants these improvements. UDOT will continue to push this project, but the left turn lane will not be constructed until heavy left bound truck traffic warrants those improvements.

VI. UDOT and STIP Updates

Mr. Jim McConnell, UDOT, reported that an overlay and chip seal project on SR-56 is in progress. This project is receiving funding from the new gas tax to make improvements to areas that were severely damaged when traffic was re-routed from I-15 due to flooding issues in Nevada. Utah was able to tie into the Nevada emergency declaration to obtain \$4.5 million in federal funding. Western Rock should begin work within the next two weeks. A widening project on SR-20 from the top of the hill into Bare Valley is also slated to begin. This is a unique project that will be accomplished through 3-D design. This project will provide digital design to the contractor. This will be the first project in the state of Utah as well as in the nation that will be utilizing this design option. A lane leveling and chip seal project is underway on SR-143 from milepost zero to milepost 12 as well. A project last year paved SR-143 from milepost 12 to 18. A chip seal will be applied to this section as well. A project on SR-130 from Midvalley Road to the Iron County boundary will include lane leveling and a chip seal. It is anticipated that construction will begin within the next three weeks. He also reported that widening from the North Interchange to Midvalley Road is scheduled for 2018. This project will add an additional lane in each direction. This will also be accomplished utilizing 3-D design. The project will include wide enough shoulders to accommodate a bike lane. UDOT still has the south interchange in Parowan in their spotlight as a project. Several design options have been studied for improvements to this interchange. The proposed jug handle design will require traffic exiting the freeway to stop at a T-intersection. This will make it easier to travel westbound but a little more difficult for those traveling eastbound.

Mr. McConnell announced that Clayton Wilson has been assigned as the new District Engineer in Cedar City. Mr. McConnell has assumed a new role as the Region Construction Program Engineer. It is anticipated that with the new federal program and new gas tax, the number of projects in this region will double within the next two years.

VII. Energy Efficiencies & Transportation – Utah Clean Cities



IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR MAILE WILSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

Mr. Dave Demas introduced Ms. Robin Erickson, Utah Clean Cities and asked that she share information with the group. Information folders were provided to those in attendance. Ms. Erickson provided background information regarding herself and reported that there are numerous sources of funding available to organizations who are interested in submitting applications. The Clean Cities program came to Utah in 1994 and Ms. Erickson has worked for the organization since its inception. The Utah Clean Cities Coalition is a part of the Department of Energy's only community based program. Their main goal is to advance Utah's energy economy and environmental securities through the promotion of alternative fuels and alternative vehicle fuel technology to reduce foreign oil. Over 60% of the U.S. imports are from foreign oil. Utah Clean Cities is part of 100 clean cities throughout the nation. A staff of two employees serves the entire state. One employee is based in Salt Lake City and Ms. Erickson is based out of the Washington County School District office in St. George. She reported that there are over 11 million alternative vehicles nationwide. The clean cities organization work with approximately 22,000 public and private stakeholders. Clean Cities utilizes three strategies as follows: 1) Replace petroleum with alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles; 2) Reduce petroleum use to other efficiencies such as utilization of smart driving practices; and 3) Eliminate the use of petroleum by using mass transit trips. A lot of training has been provided to school district bus drivers in terms of idle reduction. This has resulted in substantial savings for those districts who participated in the program. There are a number of grants available through Utah Clean Cities. Staff is also available to conduct training and to provide education to agencies throughout the state. The production of natural gas is big in Utah, but there is also a biofuel refinery in the state. Fuel of choice will be natural gas first, electric vehicles come in second, and propane is coming very quickly as well. Information was shared about greenhouse emissions and things that have been done to reduce these emissions. It was noted that there are approximately 22,000 alternative fuel stations throughout the nation and approximately 205 in the state of Utah. Studies indicated that about 91% of the population in rural America drives alone. Utah Clean Cities has brought approximately \$30 million dollars in grants into Utah since 1994 for their stakeholders. A lot of work is also accomplished with the national parks in Utah. A list of members was also shared with the group. Future funding opportunities includes \$2 million dollars that will be awarded for alternative fuel communities and \$1.5 million for education outreach. Information was also provided outlining funding opportunities through the state of Utah. Lisa Burr handles grants through the Utah Division of Air Quality, and can be contacted by calling 801-536-4019. Matt Carlyle handles tax credits and can be reached at 801-536-4136. Work is continuing on the I-15 corridor to install charging stations for electric vehicles about every 45 miles. Utah Clean Cities has also reached out to



IRON COUNTY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

ICRTEC CHAIR—MAYOR MAILE WILSON • ICRTAC CHAIR—TOM STRATTON • PLANNING MANAGER—CURT HUTCHINGS

national parks and national monuments to write grants for installation of electric charging stations.

VIII. Other Discussion Items

Commissioner Alma Adams announced that an Intergenerational poverty meeting is scheduled for June 17th in Iron County. Follow up at the July meeting may be necessary.

IX. Next Meeting, Date and Location: The next meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2016 in Cedar City. Notification of the date and time will be forwarded prior to the meeting.

X. Adjourn

A motion was made by Mayor Donald Landes, seconded by Mayor Geoffrey Chesnut, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.